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KISHIMOTO et al., SN 09/842,001  
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Responsive to 17 May 2006 Office Action

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1.-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system, comprising:  
an external storage device having storage data, and storage operating data to  
manage a volume configuration and/or volume movement of said storage data, and  
a service processor for operating said storage operating data;  
a host computer coupled with said external storage device via a first  
connection; and  
a storage management server coupled with said host computer via a second  
connection and said service processor via a third connection,  
wherein said storage management server executes a storage operating data  
server program to manage said storage operating data via said third connection, and  
wherein said host computer does not read/write said storage operating data  
directly from/to said external storage device, and instead executes an application  
program associated with said storage operating data server program so as to  
read/write said storage operating data indirectly from/to said external storage device  
through said storage management server and said third connection in order to  
manage the volume configuration and/or volume movement of said storage data,  
and wherein said host computer commands reads/writes of said storage data from/to  
said external storage device through said first connection, and  
wherein said storage management server is adapted to acknowledge said  
volume configuration and/or volume movement operation back to said host computer

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before said volume configuration and/or volume movement operation has completed,  
so as to enable turn-off of said host computer during at least a portion of said volume  
configuration and/or volume movement operation.

8. (Previously Presented) The storage operating control system according to Claim 7, wherein said host computer operates in accordance with said storage operating data which the storage management server reads from said external storage device.

9. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system ~~as defined in the~~ according to claim 7, comprising a switch for selectively shutting off said third connection between said service processor and said storage management server.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system ~~as defined in the~~ according to claim 9, wherein said switch is provided in an interface of said service processor.

11. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system ~~as defined in the~~ according to claim 7, wherein said storage management server comprising a WWW (World Wide Web) terminal connection and a WWW server program to allow access of the storage operating data using the WWW terminal connection.

12. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system ~~as defined in the~~ according to claim 7, wherein communication between said host computer and said

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storage management server on said second connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP).

13. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as-defined in the according to claim 7, wherein communication between said service processor and said storage management server on said third connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP).

14. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system, comprising:  
an external storage device having storage data, and configuration information to manage a volume configuration and/or volume movement of said storage data, and a service processor for operating said configuration information;

a host computer coupled with said external storage device via a first connection; and

a storage management server coupled with said host computer via a second connection and said service processor via a third connection,

wherein said storage management server executes a storage operating-data configuration server program to manage said configuration information via said third connection, and

wherein said host computer does not read/write said configuration information directly from/to said external storage device, and instead executes an application program associated with said storage operating-data configuration server program

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so as to read/write said configuration information indirectly from/to said external storage device through said storage management server and said third connection in order to manage the volume configuration and/or volume movement of said storage data, and wherein said host computer commands reads/writes of said storage data from/to said external storage device through said first connection, and wherein said storage management server is adapted to acknowledge said volume configuration and/or volume movement operation back to said host computer before said volume configuration and/or volume movement operation has completed, so as to enable turn-off of said host computer during at least a portion of said volume configuration and/or volume movement operation.

15. (Previously Presented) The storage operating control system according to Claim 14, wherein said host computer operates in accordance with said configuration information which the storage management server reads from said external storage device.

16. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as defined in the according to claim 14, comprising a switch for selectively shutting off said third connection between said service processor and said storage management server.

17. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as defined in the according to claim 16, wherein said switch is provided in an interface of said service processor.

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18. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as defined in the according to claim 14, wherein said storage management server comprising a WWW (World Wide Web) terminal connection and a WWW server program to allow access of the configuration information using the WWW terminal connection.

19. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as defined in the according to claim 14, wherein communication between said host computer and said storage management server on said second connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP).

20. (Currently Amended) A storage operating control system as defined in the according to claim 14, wherein communication between said service processor and said storage management server on said third connection is at least partially conducted using JAVA Remote Method Invocation (RMI) on a transmission control protocol/internet protocol (TCP/IP).